

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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FROM: GENEVA

TO: Secretary of State

NO: SECTO 324, JULY 15, 9 P.M.

PRIORITY

SENT DEPARTMENT SECTO 324, REPEATED INFORMATION LONDON 34.

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LLOYD BROUGHT UP WITH ME THIS MORNING THE STATUS OF OUR CONTINGENCY PLANNING. ON THE MILITARY SIDE HE SAID THAT UK PREFERS NORSTAD'S B PLAN BUT WITH NO PROVISION FOR AUTOMATIC EXECUTION. BRITISH BELIEVED THAT DECISION TO LAUNCH PROBE AFTER BLOCKAGE MUST BE MADE BY GOVERNMENTS IN LIGHT OF SITUATION AT THE TIME. I ASKED HIM IF THIS UNWILLINGNESS TO REACH AN ADVANCE DECISION MEANT THAT WE SHOULD CONTEMPLATE IMPOSING A BLOCKADE ON OURSELVES. HE DENIED THIS WAS CASE AND USED USUAL ARGUMENTS FOR REFUSING TO TAKE HYPOTHETICAL DECISION.

WE THEN DISCUSSED AT SOME LENGTH MOVEMENT ORDER PROCEDURE WHICH WE SAID HAD BEEN APPROVED IN BONN AND BY WASHINGTON AMBASSADORIAL GROUP BUT STILL LACKED GOVERNMENT CONFIRMATION FROM LONDON. HE SAID THAT HE WOULD APPROVE IT RELUCTANTLY AND THAT THIS WOULD CONSTITUTE GOVERNMENT APPROVAL BUT LASKEY WHO WAS WITH HIM SAID THEY HAD A LONG PAPER ON THE SUBJECT WHICH HE THOUGHT LLOYD SHOULD GO OVER BEFORE COMMUNICATING FINAL APPROVAL.

HERTER

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